

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Original) A method comprising:
obtaining a data set of a first point cloud and a data set of a second point cloud;
identifying a portion of geometry defined by each respective data set which describes a substantially similar geometric shape;
computing a transformation such that the portion of geometry in each data set align to substantially minimize alignment error; and
applying the transformation to the first point cloud to register it relative to the second point cloud.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein computing comprises:
generating values for a relative rotation of a portion of the identified geometry within the first and second point clouds respectively.
3. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein computing comprises:
identifying a relative scale factor between a portion of the identified geometry within the first and second point clouds respectively.
4. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein computing comprises:
generating values for a relative translation of a portion of the identified geometry within the first and second point cloud respectively.
5. (Original) The method of claim 2 wherein computing comprises:
constructing a rotation matrix for the portion of geometry defined by each respective data set which describes the substantially similar geometric shape.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein computing the transformation comprises:

calculating a geometric mean of a spatial distribution of the identified portion of geometry of at least one point cloud.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein computing the transformation comprises:

calculating a centroid of a spatial distribution of the identified portion of geometry of at least one point cloud.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein computing the transformation comprises:

combining calculations for a relative rotation, scale and translation of the identified portion of geometry of first and second point clouds respectively.

9. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the first and the second point clouds represent portions of a single physical object.

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Original) A method comprising:

obtaining a data set of a first point cloud and a data set of a second point cloud;

obtaining an image containing texture for a portion of geometry in each respective data set;

identifying a first portion of the texture and a second portion of the texture associated with each respective data set that represents substantially a same surface;

computing a relative texture transformation of the first and second data sets such that the portions of texture associated with each data set align to substantially minimize texture alignment error;

identifying a portion of geometry defined by each respective data set which describes a substantially similar geometric shape;

computing a relative geometric transformation such that the portion of geometry in each respective data set align to substantially minimize alignment error;

adjusting the texture transformation based on the geometric transformation; and

applying the adjusted texture transformation to the first texture to register it relative to the second texture.

12. (Original) A computer readable storage medium including program instructions that direct a computer to perform one or more operations when executed by a processor, the one or more operations comprising:

obtaining a data set of a first point cloud and a data set of a second point cloud;

identifying a portion of geometry defined by each respective data set which describes a substantially similar geometric shape;

computing a transformation such that the portion of geometry in each data set align to substantially minimize alignment error; and

applying the transformation to the first point cloud to register it relative to the second.

13. (New) The method of Claim 1 wherein identifying occurs substantially automatically.